

lego

rockraiders

42 pages

Script: ALAN GRANT

PAGE 1

1. Full page splash panel. Exterior view, space. The Rockraiders' spaceship ÒExplorerÓ is close to a large, barren moon. As the spaceship passes round the moon, it emerges directly into the path of a violent, fast-moving and large meteor storm (which was previously hidden from them by the moon's bulk).

TITLE: Chapter 1: PLANET OF THE MONSTERS

CAPTION: From Jet's Journal: WOULDN'T YOU JUST KNOW IT? WE WERE ONLY THREE DAYS

FROM HOME, LOOKING FORWARD TO A HARD-EARNED HOLIDAY, WHEN EVERY

ALARM ON THE SHIP WENT CRAZY--

SHIP BALLOON: METEOR STORM!

BLN LINK: STRAP IN, YOU ROCKRAIDERS! THIS COULD BE A BUMPY RIDE!

PAGE 2

1. Interior, ÒExplorerÓ. The Rockraider team are strapping themselves into their seats. If possible, we should see all of them here. We might also see the meteors on a large wall-mounted monitor screen.

BANDIT: Huh! JUST WHEN I WAS DREAMING OF SOME DOWN-TIME ON A SUN-KISSED BEACH!

AXLE: DON'T BE SO GROUCHY, BANDIT! ADVENTURE IS THE SPICE OF LIFE!

2. Small, close shot of the engineer, SPARKS. He holds a saucer and cup, which is full of tea.

SPARKS: JUMPING JACK-PLUGS! WHAT ABOUT MY CUP OF TEA..?

3. Exterior view of the ship, fairly large. A tumbling, house-sized meteor smashes into (and bounces off) òExploreró, causing extensive damage to its thruster engines at the rear. KERRAASH! NO DIALOG.

4. Interior. Alert lights flash on the screen in front of strapped-in Sparks. He still holds his cup of tea, trying not to spill any, as he calls out to the Captain - who's responsible for òsteeringó the spaceship.

SPARKS: DIRECT HIT ON THE THRUSTERS, CHIEF! WE'RE LOSING POWER!

5. On the Chief, grimly wrestling with the ship controls. On the large monitor screen we now see SFX indicating a maelstrom-like wormhole in space.

CHIEF: BLAST! A WORMHOLE IN SPACE - AND WE'RE HEADING STRAIGHT FOR IT!

PAGE 3

1. SFX. Exterior shot. The Explorer is being sucked into the wormhole.

SHIP BLN: WE'RE BEING SUCKED IN!

2. SFX. Exterior shot. Explorer spins crazily, completely enveloped by the wormhole.

SHIP BLN: HOLD ON FOR ALL YOU'RE WORTH!

3. SFX. Exterior shot. Explorer is expelled from the other end of the wormhole, into unknown space. NO DIALOG.

4. Interior of the ship. The Rockraiders are unstrapping themselves; focus on Sparks, still holding the unspilled cup of tea as, unstrapped, he gets to his feet.

CHIEF: WE'VE COME OUT THE OTHER SIDE. WE'RE SAFE!

SPARKS: AND I DIDN'T SPILL A DROP!

5. Close, smallish. On Sparks, as he trips over his own feet and the cup of tea spills from his hand all over the floor.

SPARKS: Woops!

JET CAP: SPARKS MAY BE THE BEST ENGINEER IN SPACE - BUT HE'S ALSO THE CLUMSIEST!

PAGE 4

1. Exterior view. The Explorer is in orbit around the Planet of the Monsters. The space background contains no known constellations or stars. The wormhole SFX have faded away.

JET CAP: A WORMHOLE IS LIKE A SHORTCUT THROUGH SPACE. THE ONLY PROBLEM IS, YOU

NEVER KNOW WHERE YOU'LL END UP--

SHIP BLN: I DON'T RECOGNIZE ANY OF THESE STARS, CHIEF. I FIGURE WE'VE BEEN

TRANSPORTED TO ANOTHER GALAXY!

2. Interior, the bridge of the Explorer. The Chief looks grim. Beside him, DOCS is examining the readings on his computerized locators.

CHIEF: WE LOST A LOT OF FUEL. THIS COULD BE SERIOUS, DOCS!

DOCS: MAYBE NOT, SIR. MY GEO-LOCATORS SAY THAT PLANET'S A PRIME
SOURCE OF

POWER CRYSTALS!

3. Focus on the teleport area. JET, AXLE, BANDIT and DOCS are ready to be beamed down to the planet, along with their HOVER SCOUT vehicles. Chief addresses them, while Sparks operates the teleport control.

JET CAP: THERE WAS ONLY ONE WAY TO FIND OUT FOR SURE - THE ROCKRAIDERS
HAD

TO TELEPORT DOWN AND INVESTIGATE--

CHIEF: SCANNERS INDICATE THE PLANET'S OKAY FOR OXYGEN AND LIFE
SUPPORT.

LINK: BUT THERE'S NO SAYING WHAT YOU'LL ENCOUNTER DOWN THERE - SO GO
CAREFUL!

4. Same as previous panel, only now we see SFX as the foursome teleport out. The Chief calls after them.

CHIEF: GOOD LUCK!

PAGE 5

1. The Rockraiders re-appear in blaze of SFX. Each of them is at the controls of a one-man Hover Scout vehicle. They're about a hundred metres or so above the planet's surface, so we get a view of how alien the place is.

JET CAP: OUR HOVER SCOUTS REAPPEARED A HUNDRED METRES ABOVE THE
 SURFACE OF THE WEIRD, ALIEN WORLD--

2. Close on Docs, pointing to a jagged alien mountain.

DOCS: THE STRONGEST READINGS COME FROM THAT MOUNTAIN.

3. Jet's Hover Scout speeds ahead of the others, heading towards the jagged mountain.

JET: THEN LET'S CHECK IT OUT.

LINK: FOLLOW ME!

4. The mountainside. Jet's craft is heading directly into a massive opening, like a cave, underneath a jagged rock overhang. The others follow her.

JET: A CAVE! THIS COULD BE JUST WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR!

PAGE 6

1. Interior of the cave, which is very large and turns into a number of smaller tunnels as it recedes into the distance. Its walls and ceiling are carved out, not natural. The Hover Scouts have entered, small against the cave's vastness.

AXLE: WOW! WHAT A SIZE!

DOCS: THERE'S NO WAY THIS CAN BE NATURAL! IT'S BEEN CARVED OUT OF
THE SOLID

ROCK BY SOMEONE...OR SOMETHING!

2. On Axle's craft, touching down to land near the rear of the cave, where the multi-tunnels start. He fails to notice the SlimySlug excretions glistening on the cave floor where his vehicle is landing.

AXLE: I'M LANDING TO MAKE A CLOSER EXAMINATION!

JET: REMEMBER WHAT THE CAPTAIN SAID, AXLE - GO CAREFUL!

3. Axle's craft has landed in the SlimySlug stuff. Axle is clambering out. The other craft fly on overhead.

AXLE: DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME, JET. I CAN LOOK AFTER MYSELF!

4. On Axle, standing in the SlimySlug sticky stuff, strands of it adhering to his feet and legs, holding him fast.

JET CAP: FAMOUS LAST WORDS! AXLE'S A GREAT DRIVER, BUT HE TENDS TO BE A LITTLE

HEADSTRONG--

AXLE: HEY! THIS STUFF'S LIKE SUPERGLUE!

LINK: I'M STUCK!

5. Fairly close shot. Axle stares in amazement at a SlimySlug which emerges from behind a rock close to him. The SlimySlug stares back, equally amazed.

AXLE: SUFFERING SPACE-RATS! WHAT THE HECK IS THAT?

PAGE 7

1. Axle is still stuck fast in the glue. Now a half-dozen other SlimySlugs appear, all of them heading towards the trapped vehicle. Axle barks into his radio.

AXLE: HEY, GUYS! I NEED A LITTLE HELP HERE! I'M SURROUNDED BY - BY--

LINK: SLIMYSLUGS!

2. Overhead shot, seen from Jet's POV as her craft zooms down towards Axle. She can see the SlimySlugs clustered round the stuck vehicle, feeding on its power source.

JET CAP: SLIMYSLUG WAS A GOOD NAME FOR THEM. THEY WERE CLUSTERED ROUND AXLE'S

SCOUT--

AXLE: THEY'RE FEEDING ON MY FUEL SUPPLY!

LINK: GET AWAY FROM THERE, YOU SLIMY BEASTS!

3. Upshot, from the SlimySlugs' POV. They look up, wide-eyed, as Jet's craft comes streaking down, seemingly straight at them.

JET CAP: I POWERED MY CRAFT INTO A FAST, LOW DIVE--

4. Startled, the SlimySlugs scatter as the Hover Scout roars by overhead.

JET CAP: THAT SENT THEM SLITHERING AND SLIDING BACK INTO THE TUNNELS--

PAGE 8

1. Axle in close foreground, looking up, giving Jet a thumbs-up sign.

AXLE: NICE WORK, JET! THAT'S ONE I OWE YOU!

2. Stay focussed on Axle. The sticky strands holding him are melting away, and he steps free.

AXLE: THEIR GLUE SEEMS TO BE MELTING AWAY. I'M FREE!

3. Semi-distance shot. Axle's craft takes off, flying up towards the other three craft.

BANDIT: WE'D BETTER KEEP AN EYE OPEN FOR MORE OF THEM.

DOCS: THEY DON'T SEEM DANGEROUS. AND I NOTICED SOMETHING ELSE--

LINK: THEY HAVE NO LIMBS. SO THEY COULDN'T HAVE CARVED THESE TUNNELS!

4. Headshot Bandit. Small.

BANDIT: THEN WHO - OR WHAT - DID?

5. Semi-distance shot of the four craft heading deeper into the cave system, taking the largest of the tunnels.

JET: GOOD QUESTION, BANDIT. MAYBE WE'LL FIND OUT SOON--

LINK: THIS TUNNEL SEEMS TO LEAD TO SOMEWHERE!

6. Close reaction shot of Jet, eyebrows raised, surprised.

JET CAP: IT WASN'T LONG BEFORE WE FOUND OUT EXACTLY WHERE IT WENT--

JET: I DON'T BELIEVE IT..!

PAGE 9

1. Large panel, two-thirds of a page. The four craft exit from the tunnel to find themselves inside a massive cavern, hundreds of feet high, hewn out of the solid rock. It's sculpted in all sorts of strange ways, with giant statues of rock monsters in various places. I believe the analogy is with Egypt's Valley of the Kings or maybe the Rose City of Petra. There's a river of lava running along the foot of one wall of the cavern, and many tunnels of differing sizes lead off in various places.

AXLE: WOW! WHAT KIND OF CREATURE BUILT THIS?

BANDIT: IT MUST BE HUNDREDS OF YEARS OLD!

2. Close on Axle and Jet - their craft are flying alongside each other, and they're each turned towards the other, arguing.

AXLE: I'D SAY THOUSANDS!

JET: COULD EVEN BE MILLIONS!

AXLE 2: BILLIONS!

3. Headshot Docs.

DOCS: COOL IT, YOU TWO.

LINK: WHOEVER MADE IT, THEY DON'T SEEM TO BE AROUND RIGHT NOW!

PAGE 10

1. The craft have all landed at the base of a massive, 50-foot high statue which towers over them. Jet, Axle and bandit are looking up at it in awe, while Docs checks his locator equipment and speaks into his radio.

DOCS: THIS IS DOCS CALLING ÒEXPLORERÓ. WE APPEAR TO HAVE DISCOVERED THE

REMAINS OF AN ANCIENT CIVILIZATION.

2. Cut to the bridge of the Explorer. Chief is using the radio. In the background, Sparks may be seen drinking another cup of tea.

DOCS JAG BLN: THERE ARE POWER CRYSTALS AND HIGH-GRADE LEGO ORE NEARBY.

CHIEF: PROCEED WITH CAUTION. SPARKS WILL BEAM DOWN VEHICLES AND
EQUIPMENT -

JUST AS SOON AS HE'S HAD HIS TEA-BREAK!

3. Back in the cavern. SFX shot as vehicles and mining equipment suddenly appear close to our heroes. NO DIALOG.

4. Each of the Rockraiders is now in the cab of a mining vehicle, setting off, ready to start drilling etc.

DOCS: LET'S GET BUSY, PEOPLE.

LINK: WE'LL BE OFF THIS WEIRD WORLD AND HEADING FOR HOME IN NO TIME!

PAGE 11

1. Full page splash panel. Interior of the gigantic cavern, semi-distance shot so we see the impressive array of mining equipment the Raiders have set up and are operating. Show some of the vehicles at work - the Granite Grinder on its long legs, the Loader-dozer shovelling away heaps of rocks, also the Chrome Crusher busy drilling into a cavern wall.

There may be a large heap of Lego ore someplace, and a smaller heap of gleaming power crystals. There's a Lego bridge built over the lava stream, to give access to the tunnels beyond.

TITLE: Chapter 2: FIRE AND ICE

JET CAP: WE WORKED FOR TWO DAYS WITHOUT A BREAK, AND THE LEGO ORE AND
ENERGY

CRYSTALS BEGAN TO MOUNT UP IMPRESSIVELY.

JET CAP: DOCS ESTIMATED THAT WE'D HAVE ENOUGH TO POWER THE ÒEXPLORERÓ,
AND

STILL HAVE PLENTY TO TAKE HOME AS CARGO. THAT IS, IF SPARKS
AND THE CHIEF

COULD FIGURE OUT WHERE HOME WAS!

JET CAP: STILL, WE'D BEEN ON DOZENS OF EXPEDITIONS...AND THE CHIEF HAD
NEVER

LET US DOWN YET.

PAGE 12

1. Focus on Axle, using a mining laser to dig away rock in the wall of a low tunnel. He's talking to himself.

AXLE: WHAT'S MADE OF STONE, AND SINGS?

LINK: KARA-ROCK-E!

2. Viewed from above and behind Axle - from the low ceiling. A Rock Monster is Òcoming to lifeÓ - that is, it's emerging from the living rock of the tunnel roof. Its eyes glow red. Axle has no idea it's there. Also, a SlimySlug is peering towards Axle from behind a boulder.

AXLE: NOPE - NOBODY'LL LAUGH AT THAT! TRY AGAIN, DUDE!

LINK: WHAT DID THE BRAVE ROCK SAY TO THE COWARD?

3. In foreground, the menacing Rock Monster drops to the tunnel floor. In background, the SlimySlug has turned to see the Rock Monster; the Slug looks worried. Axle works on, unaware.

AXLE: I'M BOULDER THAN YOU!

LINK: HAHAHAHAHA!

4. Reverse angle of previous panel. Axle in foreground, working away, exposing a power crystal from the rock. Behind him, the Rock Monster is approaching in threatening fashion. The frightened SlimySlug takes to its heels (so to speak) and slithers off at speed.

AXLE: IS THAT YOU, JET? WANT TO HEAR MY NEW JOKE?

LINK: WHAT DID THE BRAVE ROCK SAY TO THE--

5. Close on Axle, turning to see the Rock Monster for the first time as it looms over him. Axle looks shocked.

AXLE: Uh-oh!

PAGE 13

1. The Rock Monster's brawny arm lashes out in a heavy blow that strikes Axle and knocks him back. SWATT!

Axle drops his mining laser.

AXLE: AAH!

2. On Axle. he's fallen by the now-completely revealed power crystal. he looks up as the Monster balls its huge fist, ready to strike him again.

AXLE: THAT HURT!

LINK: AND IT'S NOT FINISHED WITH ME YET!

3. Grabbing up the power crystal in his hands, Axle ducks as the Monster lashes out with a fierce punch. It whistles over Axle's head and SLAMM!s into the tunnel wall with crushing impact.

AXLE: TOO SLOW, ROCKY!

4. Holding the power crystal, Axle starts to run away along the tunnel. Its face angry, the Monster lumbers to follow him.

AXLE: TIME I WAS OUT OF HERE!

5. Axle runs along the tunnel towards us, looking back over his shoulder to see the Monster thundering after him.

AXLE: IT'S AFTER ME!

PAGE 14

1. Axle squeezes through a narrow aperture in the side of the tunnel; this widens out on the other side.

AXLE: IT WON'T BE ABLE TO FOLLOW ME IN HERE - THE OPENING'S TOO NARROW!

2. On the Rock Monster, ignoring the narrow aperture, starting to move into and through the solid rock of the tunnel wall. NO DIALOG.

3. Axle stares in disbelief as the Rock Monster glides through the solid rock, starting to appear on the other side of the aperture beside him.

AXLE: INCREDIBLE! IT'S WALKING THROUGH SOLID ROCK!

4. As the Monster moves menacingly towards him again, Axle throws the power crystal at it in desperation.

AXLE: KEEP AWAY FROM ME, YOU MONSTER!

5. On the Monster, looking almost happy as it stoops to pick up the power crystal. Axle in background.

AXLE: IT'S LOST INTEREST IN ME! ALL IT WANTS IS THE POWER CRYSTAL!

PAGE 15

1. Axle breathes a sigh of relief as the Monster, clutching the crystal, lumbers off again - perhaps walking back into the rock of the tunnel wall.

AXLE: Phew! THAT WAS CLOSE!

2. Axle runs back along the tunnel towards the main cavern and the mining operation there.

AXLE: I'D BETTER WARN THE OTHERS! THE SLIMYSLUGS MIGHT BE A NUISANCE--

LINK: BUT IF THERE ARE MORE OF THESE ROCK MONSTERS, WE'RE ALL IN BIG TROUBLE!

3. Large panel, two-thirds of a page. The mining operation in the main cavern is under attack from a dozen or more Rock Monsters. A couple of Monsters are pushing over a Granite Grinder; Jet is leaping to safety from its cab. Others throw rocks at some of the other machines, while a third group of Monsters is stealing power crystals and/or Lego ore from their respective holding areas. Have at least one Monster quite large in foreground, for perspective. NOTE - Bandit does NOT appear in this panel.

JET CAP: BUT AXLE'S WARNING CAME TOO LATE. OUR MAIN OPERATION WAS ALREADY

UNDER HEAVY ATTACK--

JET: LOOK OUT! THEY'RE TRYING TO DESTROY OUR EQUIPMENT!

PAGE 16

1. On a couple of Monsters laden with power crystals. Docs faces them, his mining laser held up threateningly.

DOCS: PUT THOSE CRYSTALS DOWN, YOU BRUTES!

2. Doc has set his laser to òpushÓ, and is using it against one of the Monsters, which drops its crystals as it's forced back by the laser (we'll need some sort of SFX for the laser).

DOC: DON'T SAY YOU WEREN'T WARNED!

3. On Jet, using a mining laser against one of the Monsters trying to smash the Granite Grinder, which has fallen over on its side. Docs shouts to her from background.

DOCS: SET YOUR MINING LASERS TO PUSH! THAT'LL DRIVE THEM BACK!

JET: GOOD THINKING, DOCS!

4. Jet, Docs and Axle are side by side, each with a mining laser òpushingÓ as they advance, driving the Monsters back.

AXLE: HEY, JET! YOU WANT TO HEAR MY NEW JOKE?

JET: NOW IS NOT THE TIME, AXLE!

JET CAP BELOW: I SWEAR, THAT MAN CAN'T TAKE ANYTHING SERIOUSLY!

5. On Docs. He's facing a Rock Monster somewhat larger than the others. It's lashing out with a backhand SWIPE!, knocking the laser from his hand.

PAGE 18

1. The Monster in foreground, fallen into the lava, and melting into it. Docs, Jet and Axle watch from the bank of the stream in background.

JET: IT'S JUST MELTING AWAY...!

2. Close headshots of all three.

DOCS: WELL, TEAM - I THINK WE JUST MET THE ORIGINAL BUILDERS OF THIS PLACE! THEY'RE

OBVIOUSLY SOME KIND OF ROCK ELEMENTALS THAT USE THE CRYSTALS AS FOOD.

JET: BUT THEY SEEM SO PRIMITIVE. TOUGH, YES - BUT NOT VERY CLEVER!

3. Small headshot Docs.

DOCS: IT COULD BE DEVOLUTION. SOMETIMES A CIVILIZATION RISES, REACHES ITS

PEAK, AND THEN JUST FADES AWAY.

LINK: I'D SAY THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED HERE.

4. Probably the largest panel on the page. They look around at the scene of destruction - vehicles on their sides, their crystal and ore supplies severely depleted, maybe one machine actually burning. Spotlights lie on their sides, broken. The Monsters have all gone.

JET: WHAT A MESS!

AXLE: AND THEY GOT AWAY WITH MOST OF OUR CRYSTALS!

5. Same as, or similar to, Panel 2 on this page. Close headshots of all three.

DOCS: THEY'RE DANGEROUS. I'D BETTER INFORM THE CHIEF.

AXLE: AND BANDIT. WHERE IS HE, ANYWAY? IT'S NOT LIKE HIM TO MISS OUT
ON A FIGHT!

JET: HE SAID HE WAS GOING FOR A PLEASURE CRUISE!

PAGE 19

1. Cut to a vast underground lake, the rock ceiling arching away high above. Bandit is riding at speed across it on his Rapid Rider boat. A narrow ledge - which we'll use as a road shortly - runs alongside the lake.

JET CAP: WE'D DISCOVERED THE UNDERGROUND LAKE ABOUT A MILE AWAY DOWN
THE

EXPLORING TUNNELS. AND THERE WAS NOTHING BANDIT LIKED SO MUCH AS

IN HIS RAPID RIDER--

RADIO JAG: DOCS CALLING BANDIT! WATCH OUT FOR ROCK MONSTERS!

2. Cut back to a close shot in the cavern. Docs speaks into a radio, Jet standing beside him.

RADIO JAG: DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME, DOCS. ÒCAREFULÓ IS MY MIDDLE NAME.

JET: ÒGROUCHYÓ, MORE LIKE!

3. Cut back to Bandit. He's heading towards an area of the lake shore which is covered in ice, like a glacier melting into it. Ice cliffs, ice boulders.

BANDIT: I HEARD THAT, JET!

LINK: THERE'S A LOT OF ICE HERE. AM MOVING CLOSER TO INVESTIGATE.

4. Bandit sails in close to the shore. In close foreground, an Ice Monster starts to detach itself from the glittering icescape, in much the same way as the Rock Monster did earlier. Its eyes flash red. Bandit hasn't seen it yet.

BANDIT: IT'S LIKE A GLACIER FLOWING INTO THE LAKE.

LINK: NO SIGN OF ANY MONSTERS, THOUGH!

5. Bandit in close foreground, now seeing the Monster, which stands on the shore close to the boat, facing him, looking threatening.

BANDIT: Urk!

PAGE 20

1. The Monster unlooses a blast of its icy breath, engulfing Bandit and the boat in icy SFX. The water round the boat, if we see it, is frozen solid.

RADIO JAG: COME AGAIN, BANDIT? WHAT DO YOU MEAN - ÒURKÓ?

2. Close on Bandit. He's half-frozen, icicles dripping from his face.

BANDIT: Brrr! I M-M-MEAN - AM UNDER ATTACK F-F-FROM AN ICE M-M-MONSTER!

3. Cut back to the cavern. Jet is running towards her Hover Scout, while Axle runs towards whichever is the fastest of the ground vehicles (the one he uses in the video intro to the game - it doesn't seem to be mentioned in the notes.)

DOCS: HE NEEDS HELP!

JET: WE'RE ON OUR WAY!

4. Medium view of the Rapid Rider, frozen in place in the iced-up water. Bandit, half-frozen, is looking towards the half-dozen or so Ice Monsters which are trying to suck the power from the boats fuel source.

BANDIT: M-MORE OF THEM! THEY'RE S-S-STEALING POWER FROM MY B-B-BOAT!

5. Close shot. One of the Ice Monsters looms evilly over Bandit, who's unable to move.

BANDIT: I'M T-TOO C-C-COLD TO M-MOVE!

PAGE 21

1. Wider shot. The Monster has grabbed Bandit in foreground, but Jet's Hover Scout is swooping down towards it at fast speed.

JET: HOLD ON, BANDIT!

2. EITHER: As she swoops past, Jet kicks out with a foot, hits the Monster and sends it sprawling away from Bandit.

OR: As she swoops by, the wing of the Hover Scout strikes the Monster, sending it sprawling away. NO DIALOG.

3. The other Monsters angrily hurl ice-balls at Jet's craft. They're turned away so they don't see that Axle has arrived in the ground craft, and is helping the half-frozen Bandit aboard. It's a one-man craft, so have bandit on the small trailer behind it (as in the video intro).

AXLE: I ALWAYS KNEW YOU WERE A COOL GUY, BANDIT..!

BANDIT: J-JUST GET ME T-TO SOMEPLACE W-W-WARM!

4. In foreground, the Ice Monsters slide and slip around, falling over, as Jet dives at them again. In background, Axle and bandit, clinging to the trailer, are making their escape.

AXLE: OKAY, JET! I GOT HIM!

LINK: LET'S GET BACK TO BASE!

PAGE 22

1. Axle drives along the ledge alongside the lake, away from the ice area. Jet keeps level in her Hover Scout.

BANDIT: MY P-POOR BOAT..!

AXLE: YOU'RE ALIVE, BUDDY. THAT'S THE IMPORTANT THING!

2. On Bandit. They're coming into an area with a lava stream flowing through it. However, the flow has dried up, and the lava stream bed is almost empty.

BANDIT: YOU'RE RIGHT, AXLE. THANKS FOR SAVING ME.

JET RADIO JAG: Hah! I KNEW YOU WERE A BIG SOFTY AT HEART!

3. Angle this panel with the dried-up lava stream in foreground, the vehicles in background.

BANDIT: I HEARD THAT, JET!

LINK: JUST DON'T GO SAYING IT TO ANYONE ELSE!

4. The ground vehicle has pulled up on the bank of the lava stream; Axle and Bandit look down at the trickle.

AXLE: WHAT GIVES HERE? THE LAVA FLOW'S DRIED UP TO A TRICKLE!

5. Bandit points upstream, to where a large mass of seeming rock is lying across the stream bed, acting as a dam, the lava all piling up behind it. It is in fact a ROCKWHALE.

BANDIT: THERE'S YOUR ANSWER. LOOKS LIKE A ROCKFALL!

AXLE: THAT'S NO ROCK, BANDIT! IT'S A LIVING CREATURE...LIKE SOME
KIND OF ROCK

 WHALE!

PAGE 23

1. On the Rockwhale, which is moving slowly across the stream bed. If possible, Axle and bandit are also seen.

AXLE: IT'S MOVING!

BANDIT: THERE'S GOING TO BE A LAVA FLOOD!

2. Large. The rockwhale has moved on some, and a boiling, roiling flood of lava comes pouring down the channel, spilling out of it, near-filling the tunnel. Axle's vehicle is speeding away in front of it.

BANDIT: GET US OUT OF HERE BEFORE WE'RE COOKED!

3. Side-on shot. The vehicle speeds down the tunnel with the flood of lava pouring behind it, catching up.

NO DIALOG.

4. Similar shot, the lava now closer to the fleeing vehicle. Jet's craft, being airborne, isn't threatened. NO DIALOG.

PAGE 24

1. Close on Axle's vehicle, speeding past a surprised SlimySlug. Bandit yells at it as they pass.

BANDIT: YOU'D BETTER GET MOVING, BEASTY!

2. Close on the SlimySlug, looking back to see the approaching roiling wall of lava. It looks startled. NO DIALOG.

3. Similar to Panel 1, but now it's Axle and Bandit's turn to be surprised as the panicked SlimySlug goes speeding past them. NO DIALOG.

4. Seen from Axle's POV. Ahead, the tunnel branches - one tunnel leads straight on, while the other veers off at a sharp angle upwards. Jet is taking the straight-ahead tunnel.

AXLE: IF THE LAVA GOES STRAIGHT ON, IT'LL ENGULF THE WHOLE MINING OPERATION!

LINK: WE HAVE TO STOP IT!

5. Bandit shouts out an order, and Axle obeys. Bandit has a mining laser pointed upwards at the tunnel roof and has opened fire at it.

BANDIT: GO STRAIGHT AHEAD!

LINK: TRUST ME! I HAVE A PLAN!

PAGE 25

1. As the vehicle speeds underneath, Bandit still firing the laser, the whole tunnel ceiling starts to collapse.

BANDIT: FASTER, AXLE! THE CEILING'S COMING DOWN!

2. The vehicle speeds on. Behind it, the fallen ceiling blocks the entire tunnel.

BANDIT: WE MADE IT!

3. On the other side of the barrier. The onrushing lava flow is halted, and forced into the upward-sloping tunnel.

JET CAP: BLOCKED BY THE FALLEN CEILING, THE LAVA HAD ONLY ONE WAY TO GO--

4. The surface of the planet. The lava comes bursting out the mouth of the tunnel, like an erupting volcano.

JET CAP: UP!

5. Distance shot of the planet, so we still see the erupting volcano. High overhead, the Explorer is orbiting.

EXPLORER BLN: LAVA ERUPTION, CHIEF! LOOKS LIKE THE PLANET HAS A NEW VOLCANO!

PAGE 26

1. The speeding vehicle comes skidding to an abrupt halt - several Rock Monsters block the tunnel ahead.

AXLE: ROCK MONSTERS!

2. The Rock Monsters hurl a barrage of rocks, which KRAK! and BANG! and ricochet off the vehicle. Axle is barking frantically into his radio as rocks whizz around him.

AXLE: AXLE TO EXPLORER! THIS IS AN EMERGENCY!

LINK: BEAM US UP!

3. On Axle and Bandit, as the teleporter SFX engulf them. Both are ducking as several hard-thrown rocks whizz over their heads. The rocks, being in the teleporter's beam's area, will be beamed up to the ship as well. NO DIALOG.

4. Same shot, Axle and Bnadit engulfed by teleporter SFX, but now they're on the ship. They're still ducking, the rocks whizzing past them now. NO DIALOG.

5. Sparks dives aside for his life as the rocks SMASH! into the teleporter equipment, causing serious damage.

SPARKS: SHIVER MY SWITCHES!

PAGE 27

1. Full page splash panel. On the bridge of Explorer. The grim Chief addresses Jet, Axle, and Bandit. Sparks may be seen in background, trying to fix the shattered teleporter.

TITLE: Chapter 3: WHAT'S UP, DOCS?

JET CAP: ROCKS THROWN BY THE MONSTERS HAD BEEN CAUGHT IN THE TELEPORT
 BEAM, CAUSING SERIOUS DAMAGE. BUT THE CHIEF'S NEWS WAS EVEN
MORE
 GRIM--

CHIEF: BAD NEWS, ROCKRAIDERS. DOCS IS MISSING!

LINK: HIS PERSONAL LOCATOR IS STILL FUNCTIONING, BUT ALL
COMMUNICATION'S

GONE DEAD!

JET: CAN'T WE TELEPORT HIM BACK?

PAGE 28

1. On Sparks, with the ruined teleport equipment. He's splicing a couple of cables together.

SPARKS: SORRY, JET! IT'S WORKING IN ONE-WAY MODE ONLY - I CAN SEND
YOU DOWN TO THE PLANET, BUT I CAN'T BRING ANYONE BACK!

LINK: THERE! THAT SHOULD HELP!

2. Same, a different view. The spliced cable SPARK!s and FIZZ!es. Sparks looks unhappy.

SPARKS: Hmm! MAYBE NOT!

3. Jet, Axle and Bandit stand together in range of the teleporter, while Chief addresses them.

CHIEF: I WANT YOU THREE TO BEAM DOWN AND BRING HIM BACK.

AXLE: NO NEED TO WORRY ABOUT DOCS, CHIEF. THE DUDE'S A GENIUS.

4. Cut down to a tunnel, where Docs is running, being pursued by a fiery Lava Monster. Docs carries a mining laser.

AXLE BLN (carried over from previous panel): HE CAN TAKE CARE OF
HIMSELF!

DOCS: I LOST MY RADIO - AND NOW THIS! PERHAPS IT WASN'T WISE TO GO
OFF

EXPLORING ON MY OWN!

5. Docs turns suddenly, aiming and firing his laser at the onrushing (or
onlumbering) Lava Monster.

DOCS: TAKE THAT, YOU BRUTE!

PAGE 29

1. Docs stares in surprise as the Lava Monster, hit by the laser beam, breaks
up into a dozen or more smaller versions
of itself.

DOCS: GOOD GRIEF!

2. Doc yelps in pain as the mini-Monsters continue the attack. Their heat maybe
has his trousers smouldering where
they clutch and grab at him.

DOCS: YOW! THEY DON'T GIVE UP EASILY - AND MY LASER'S OUT OF CHARGE!

3. Angered, Docs starts yelling at the little Monsters at the top of his voice.
They break off their attack and look up at
him, startled.

DOCS: DESIST, YOU MINIATURE MANIACS!

LINK: CAN'T AN HONEST GEOLOGIST SEARCH FOR A FEW POWER CRYSTALS
WITHOUT

MINISCULE NUISANCES LIKE YOU PESTERING HIM?

4. Docs looks smugly pleased as the little Monsters turn tail and run off.

DOCS: Hah! THAT SAW THEM OFF!

5. Similar shot, only now Docs gulps as he sees the little Monsters coming back, pointing at him. Towering behind the little guys are several normal-sized Lava Monsters.

DOCS: Oo-er! THEY WERE ONLY GOING FOR THEIR BIG BROTHERS!

PAGE 30

1. Fairly large panel. Back at the base in the giant cavern. All of the mining machines are working on automatic. Jet and Bandit are starting to leave, each in the cab of a long-legged Granite Grinder, while Axle, on foot, waves to them.

JET CAP: BEFORE HE LEFT, DOCS HAD SET THE CHROME CRUSHER AND LOADER-DOZER

TO AUTOMATIC. THEY WERE STILL POUNDING AWAY AS BANDIT AND I LEFT--

BANDIT: TOO BAD YOU DREW THE SHORT STRAW, AXLE. YOU HAVE TO STAY BEHIND

ON GUARD!

AXLE: I'LL USE THE TIME TO MAKE UP A FEW JOKES!

2. On the two Granite Grinders, moving fast across the bridge over the lava stream towards the tunnel entries.

JET CAP: THE GRANITE GRINDERS WEREN'T AS FAST AS HOVER SCOUTS, BUT THEY'D

GIVE US MORE PROTECTION IF WE WERE ATTACKED--

3. The Grinders òrunó along a tunnel. NO DIALOG.

4. The Grinders are halted at a tunnel wall, using their drills to bore through it.

JET CAP: AND THEIR POWERFUL DRILLS MEANT WE COULD TAKE SHORTCUTS--

5. Other side of the wall, the Grinders bursting out into a fresh tunnel system. There's a couple of power crystals lying in the debris from the drilling.

JET: POWER CRYSTALS! THAT'S A BONUS!

PAGE 31

1. The Granite Grinders are coming abreast towards us, as if about to march out of the panel. But from the left, a Lava Monster attacks, hurling gobs of flaming lava at the vehicles.

BANDIT: LAVA MONSTER!

2. Same angle, but now from the right an Ice Monster attacks, with frozen breath engulfing the Grinders.

JET: ICE MONSTER!

3. Same angle, but now both Grinders shoot forward (i.e. out of panel at reader).

BANDIT AND JET: TURBO BOOST!

4. With the vehicles no longer between them, the Ice Monster and Lava Monster attack each other - frozen breath engulfing one, while the other is splattered with lava-balls. NO DIALOG.

5. Same as Panel 4, only now the Lava Monster is frozen solid as a statue, while the Ice Monster is melting away.

NO DIALOG.

PAGE 32

1. Some way ahead. The Grinders have halted. Bandit is out of his cab, on the ground, holding up Docs' smashed communicator.

BANDIT: THIS IS DOCS' COMMUNICATOR.

JET: HE MUST HAVE DROPPED IT.

BANDIT 2: AND CAUSED THIS AMOUNT OF DAMAGE? NO, JET - IT'S BEEN
DELIBERATELY

 SMASHED!

2. Bandit cups his hands to his mouth and calls up a side tunnel running off the main drag.

JET: THE LOCATORS SAY HE SHOULD BE NEARBY.

BANDIT: DOCS! CAN YOU HEAR ME?

LINK: DOCS!!

3. Close on Bandit, cupping his hand to his ear.

JET CAP: BANDIT'S VOICE SEEMED TO ECHO DOWN THE TUNNEL FOR EVER BEFORE
IT

 FINALLY DIED AWAY--

BANDIT: I CAN HEAR SOMETHING!

4. Both Granite Grinders run up the side tunnel, Jet in the lead.

JET: IT HAS TO BE DOCS!

5. On Docs, running. He's tired, his clothing ripped or charred, perspiring from the effort. Behind him, the Lava Monsters continue their relentless pursuit.

DOCS: HELP! HELP!

PAGE 33

1. A more cavernous area, with high ceiling and dripping stalactites. Docs run across a narrow natural rock arch spanning a deep rocky cleft through which a small river rushes and tumbles. The Monsters follow.

DOCS: MAYBE THEY WON'T FOLLOW ME ACROSS THE BRIDGE!

2. Docs has reached the other side of the bridge. he's stopped for a rest, panting, as he turns back to see the Monsters coming across the bridge towards him.

DOCS: Pant! SCRATCH THAT AS A THEORY!

3. Docs is too exhausted to run further, and has collapsed. Monsters converge on him, while behind, one of them uses lava-balls to destroy the bridge. There'll be no escape that way.

DOCS: THEY'RE DESTROYING THE BRIDGE!

LINK: BUT I'M TOO EXHAUSTED TO RUN ANY FURTHER!

4. On the other side. The two Granite Grinders are running towards the cleft - which is fairly wide. Ahead of them, the rock bridge is down.

BANDIT: DOCS IS DONE FOR! WE'LL NEVER GET ACROSS THERE!

JET: OH NO? WATCH THIS!

5. Bandit's Grinder has pulled up. But Jet's goes running at full pelt towards the chasm.

JET: FULL POWER!

LINK: GO, BABY, GO!

PAGE 34

1. Large. The Grinder takes off like a long-jumper, soaring up into and arcing through the air over the chasm.

JET CAP: THEN THE GROUND DISAPPEARED, AND THE HEAVY GRINDER WAS SOARING
OUT OVER THE CHASM. FOR A MOMENT, I THOUGHT I WASN'T GOING TO
MAKE IT--

2. The Grinder lands on the other side, buckling its legs, scattering Lava Monsters all over the place.

JET: TOUCHDOWN!

3. Jet jumps down from the cab as Docs stumbles up to her. The Monsters are in disarray.

DOCS: NOT A MOMENT TOO SOON, JET!

JET: I'M AFRAID WE'RE NOT OUT OF THIS YET, DOCS!

LINK: THIS GRINDER WON'T BE JUMPING BACK!

PAGE 35

1. Jet has taken a long coiled line with attached grapple from a hatch in the wrecked Grinder. Docs watches, puzzled, as she swings the grapple like a lariat. The Monsters, somewhat recovered, are shambling towards them.

JET CAP: I TOOK THE EMERGENCY LINE AND GRAPPLE FROM THE GRINDER--

DOCS: NOW WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

2. The grapple has caught and held in some protruberance - like a stalactite - high in the tunnel/cavern ceiling. Jet holds the line, ready to do a Tarzan-swing. Docs is grabbing onto her, the Monsters almost on them now.

JET: HANG ON TO ME, DOC!

3. Jet swings off, Docs clinging to her. A couple of Monsters lurch or dive at them, but miss; losing their footing, they stumble and fall off the side of the chasm.

JET: GERONIMO!

4. On the two Lava Monsters which have plunged into the torrent. It hisses and bubbles and steams as they're turned to...rock, I guess. NO DIALOG.

5. Jet and Docs land next to Bandit's Grinder.

BANDIT: VERY IMPRESSIVE, JET--

LINK: THOUGH IT'LL SERVE YOU RIGHT IF THE CHIEF DOCKS YOUR PAY TO
MAKE UP

FOR THE WRECKED GRINDER!

PAGE 36

1. Full page splash panel. The main cavern, where Axle has been left on guard. A mass attack of Monsters of all

descriptions is about to be launched. The Monsters - Ice, Lava, Rock, Rockwhale - are marching towards the bridge over the lava stream giving access to the mining operation. View the panel past a rear view of Axle in the foreground, so we get a front-on view of the approaching Monsters.

TITLE: Chapter 4: MASS ATTACK!

JET CAP: WE ARRIVED BACK AT THE MAIN BASE TO FIND AXLE IN SERIOUS
TROUBLE--

AXLE: BAD VIBES, AXLE, DUDE!

LINK: THE MONSTERS SEEM TO HAVE FORGOTTEN THEIR DIFFERENCES - AND
THEY'RE

ALL GANGING UP ON ME!

PAGE 37

1. With Bandit at the controls and Docs and jet hanging onto its legs or sides for their lives, the Granite grinder comes charing up from the Monsters' rear. The Monsters at the back are turning to look back in surprise.

BANDIT: MOVE ASIDE!

2. The Grinder charges through the Monsters, knocking many over, while others leap or dive to safety.

BANDIT: YOU GOT THE BANDIT COMING THROUGH!

3. The Grinder charges across the bridge. Axle is waiting there with a mining laser.

JET: QUICK, AXLE! BRING THE BRIDGE DOWN!

4. The Grinder is safely over. Axle uses the laser at its highest setting, its beams chewing up and destroying the bridge. Jet and the others watch from the Grinder.

DOCS: A TRICK OUT OF THE MONSTERS' BOOK!

LINK: THAT'S POETIC JUSTICE!

PAGE 38

1. The bridge is down. Axle puts his thumbs in his ears and wiggles his fingers in derision at the Monsters.

AXLE: HA HA HA-HA HA! WHO'S LAUGHING NOW?

2. Close on Axle, yelping in pain as a barrage of rocks and iceballs and lavaballs blitzes around him, a couple of rocks bouncing off him.

AXLE: YOWCH!

3. Headshot Jet speaking into her radio.

JET: JET TO EXPLORER!

LINK: BEST BEAM US AND ALL THE CRYSTALS UP, SPARKS. WE'RE IN A TRICKY SPOT!

4. Cut to the Explorer. Sparks is sitting on the floor by the teleporter, which is in bits. Wires run everywhere, and Sparks' tools litter the place.

SPARKS: YOU AND ME BOTH, GIRLY! THIS TELEPORTER'S PROVING MORE OF A PROBLEM

THAN I THOUGHT!

5. Headshot grim Chief.

CHIEF: I'VE NEVER LOST A CREW YET, SPARKS.

LINK: SEND ME DOWN!

6. Sparks complies, Chief disappearing in a blaze of teleporter SFX.

SPARKS: AYE AYE, SIR!

PAGE 39

1. Large. Back in the cavern. The Monsters are teaming up to topple some of the giant statues, which fall as bridges over the chasm between them and the RockRaiders team. One already lies in place, another is falling.

JET CAP: THEIR AGE OF CIVILIZATION MIGHT HAVE BEEN LONG PAST, BUT THE
MONSTERS

WEREN'T AS STUPID AS WE'D ALL THOUGHT--

JET: THEY'RE USING THE STATUES TO BRIDGE THE CHASM!

2. Smaller. The Chief appears at the far end of the statue bridge.

JET CAP: THEY SAY THE CHIEF HADN'T LEFT ÒEXPLORERÓ FOR TWENTY YEARS. HE
LOVED

THE SHIP SO MUCH, HE LOOKED ON IT AS HIS HOME--

3. Stay small. The Chief holds up his plasma arm - SFX start to blast from it.

JET CAP: BUT HE LEFT THAT DAY, TO HELP HIS TEAM--

CHIEF: ROCKRAIDERS!

4. Large. Several Monsters are charging over the makeshift bridge. But they run headlong into the SFX of the Òplasma wallÓ erected by the Chief's arm. They come to a sudden halt, one maybe slipping and falling off into the lava below.

CHIEF: YOU WILL NOT PASS!

JET CAP BELOW: THE POWER UNLEASHED BY HIS PLASMA ARM WAS PHENOMENAL. I'VE
HEARD HE

 HAD TO HAVE IT FITTED AFTER HE LOST HIS REAL ARM RESCUING 37
MINERS IN

 A CAVE-IN ON PLUTO--

PAGE 40

1. Large. As the Chief's plasma wall holds back the Monsters on one makeshift bridge, Jet, Axle, Bandit and Docs use mining lasers to defend the end of the other bridge.

JET CAP: BUT I DON'T KNOW ANYONE BRAVE ENOUGH TO ASK HIM IF IT'S TRUE.

AXLE: WE CAN'T HOLD OUT FOREVER! WHAT THE HECK IS KEEPING SPARKS?

2. Cut to Sparks, surrounded by bits of teleporter all connected to each other in arbitrary fashion. It looks even more of a mess than before.

SPARKS: Tsk! I JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND! IT REALLY OUGHT TO BE WORKING!

3. Small. Sparks in close shot, looking at the electric plug for the machine - it's disconnected.

SPARKS: WOULD YOU BELIEVE IT? I FORGOT TO PLUG IT IN!

4. Large. Despite the heroes' best efforts, the Monsters are about to overwhelm them by sheer force of numbers.

AXLE: LOOKS LIKE YOU'LL GO DOWN WITH YOUR TEAM, CHIEF! THEY'RE GOING TO

OVERWHELM US!

PAGE 41

1. The weel-kent teleport SFX engulf the team and the ore and the crystals and, if possible, all the machines, too.
They fade out of existence. NO DIALOG.

2. The Monsters are left standing on the statue bridges, looking round the deserted cavern in bewilderment.

JET CAP: I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO THE MONSTERS AFTER WE LEFT. I'D LIKE

TO THINK THEY KISSED AND MADE UP AND ALL BECAME FRIENDS--

3. The Monsters start fighting with each other - Ice v. Rock v. Lava.

JET CAP: BUT SOMEHOW I DOUBT IT!

4. The cargo hold on the Explorer. It's full of ore and power crystals. Chief and Docs admire it.

CHIEF: THAT'S A RECORD HAUL OF CRYSTALS, DOCS. EVERYBODY'S GOING TO GET

A FAT BONUS WHEN WE GET HOME!

DOCS: TALKING ABOUT HOME, CHIEF--

LINK: ANY IDEA HOW WE'RE GOING TO GET THERE?

PAGE 42

1. Chief and Docs walk onto the bridge, where Sparks is showing the others a large star-map which appears on the large wall-monitor screen. There's a computer keyboard below the screen, and Sparks has a cup of tea in his hand.

CHIEF: SPARKS HAS BEEN LOOKING INTO IT. HE'S PRODUCED A STAR-MAP OF THIS

ENTIRE GALAXY THAT MIGHT HELP SHOW US THE WAY.

SPARKS: AND I DON'T MIND ADMITTING I'M PROUD OF IT, SIR!

2. Close on Sparks, tripping or losing his balance so the cup of tea falls all over the compu keyboard. SPLOSH!

SPARKS: Woops!

3. The star map on the large monitor takes on the shape of the tea stain, all warped and hazy. Everybody laughs as they look at it.

ALL: HAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA! (balloon with many tails)

4. Exterior shot. Explorer zooms away from the planet of the Monsters.

JET CAP: SO WE LEFT THE PLANET OF THE MONSTERS, BOUND FOR PLACES
UNKNOWN--

AXLE BLN: HEY, EVERYBODY! WANT TO HEAR A GOOD JOKE..?

JET CAP BELOW: AND ADVENTURE UNLIMITED...WITH ROCKRAIDERS!

THE END

Glenluiart

Friday

Dear Sarah,

Here as promised is the first draft of the Rock Raiders script. Once you and the crew have read it, I'm sure you'll get back to me with comments and criticisms, alterations and advice.

A few notes: In the text CAP = CAPTION BLN = DIALOG BALLOON

I haven't marked words for emphasis - I usually do that by hand when reading over the

hard copy.

Captions can be changed to 3rd person narrative.

I've assumed that none of the Monsters talk.

Sound FX often don't translate well into other languages; I've used them sparingly.

If you want, I can draw rough page/panel breakdowns.

Look forward to hearing from you. Best,

Alan